

PERRY COUNTY

Honorable Richard M. Avery, Jr.

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James Hood
John Fender
Edward Daniel
Alvin Reed
Willie Walker
Reverend Perry
Johnny Flowers
Albert Turner, Jr.
Don Miller
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Albert Nelson
John Heard
Robert Turner, Jr.
Marvin Wiggins
Phillip White
Tom Alsabrook
Mary Cosby Moore
Vicki Fussell
Christine Taylor
Chad Bennett
Betty Briggins
Erin Blag-Black



PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Community Involvement
2. Economic Development
3. Juvenile Programs

Issues

Issues are the primary concerns or problems facing children in the county.

Health - Children's (0 - 19) physical and mental well-being in the county.

Insurance Enrollment

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Continue to distribute insurance information to the public
- Encourage health fairs for insurance enrollment
- Close monitoring of these programs by Children's Policy Council

Skills in Healthy Lifestyles

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Continued distribution of information on healthy nutrition
- Promotion of health fairs in community and schools
- Summer Nutrition programs

Physical fitness programs

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Encourage more community exercise activities for youth
- Assist in establishing a recreation center for youth

Safety - Children live free of abuse, neglect, crime, and drugs.

Drugs

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Council will give assistance with schools, community, and law enforcement of drug awareness, and enforcement of gang and gun control
- Apply for grants to fund these programs
- One on one involvement of law enforcement

Violence

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Encourage early intervention and education in productive lifestyles
- Information on mentoring through community and churches
- Children's Policy Council will continue to do research into establishing a Resource Center that has program information and referrals on development of constructive lifestyles for children

Juvenile Dropouts

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Initiate evaluation by parents, teachers, law enforcement of juvenile programs
- Cooperate with the courts on enrollment in positive programs in the community for juveniles

Education - Children learn the skills necessary to become productive citizens.

Resource Center

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Distribute information to parents, teachers, churches and community on the importance of establishing a resource center
- A concerted effort with agencies and partners to inform the community of the benefits of extended educational activities for youth and adults.
- Children's Policy Council will continue to work with the community agencies in establishing grants for educational means for youth and parents

Community Involvement

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Children's Policy Council will continue to work with other agencies to encourage better involvement by parents

Early Care and

Education - Children (0 – 5) are provided opportunities to fully develop emotionally, socially, physically, and cognitively and are ready to succeed.

Early Child Training

Policy Council Action Steps:

- A member of the Children's Policy Council to be involved with the enrichment of the program and upgrading skills of the teachers
- The Children's Policy Council will take closer observance of funding needed to keep the program in the area

Early Childhood Education Development

Policy Council Action Steps:

- The Children's Policy Council will search for available grants to aid in the funding and availability of the early childcare programs
- Encourage meetings of discussion on early development of children 0-5

Economic Security

- Children grow up in a financially stable home where the child's basic needs can be met.

Quality Jobs

Policy Council Action Steps:

- The Children's Policy Council will increase contact with local legislators in providing Job Skills/Readiness programs
- The Children's Policy Council will seek information on job skills training and development

Employment Office

Policy Council Action Steps:

- The Children's Policy Council will seek to acquire information through area employment office on job listings and training programs
- Children's Policy Council will continue to attend Town Hall Meetings on the development of Economic Security and distribution of information to the community

Parent Involvement and Skills

- Parents and guardians participation and effectiveness in fostering an environment for children to become mature, responsible and independent adults.

Parent Awareness

Policy Council Action Steps:

- Initiate child/parent involvement programs and activities
- Provide access to immediate knowledge of programs through a Resource Center

Policy Recommendation

1. Encouragement of state programs that address the issues of the county.
2. Availability of State Funds to be made known earlier and more frequent.
3. A closer evaluation of education and economic status of the county.
4. Jobs and economic opportunities directed to the rural areas more often.
5. A direct study of areas with lack of funding to develop sound programs.
6. The Perry County CPC, strongly feels that a Vista-Volunteer is needed to assist the council in initiating membership and functions of the county full time. This will benefit the county's youth and adults in understanding of what the council is all about.

Accomplishments

1. Through the assistance of Letha Stuckey, field director for Perry County, we have been able to establish:
 - a. Unity between the Policy Council and other agencies, which lead to grant proposals as a unit
 - b. Establishment of the 501(c)3 for the council
 - c. Support for a New Obesity Clinic for Youth
 - d. Communication with legislatures to take a closer look in consideration of bringing funds and possibly new industry into the county to better benefit our youth
 - e. Attendance at town hall meetings for input on the county's circumstance and how to assist in improving it.